



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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**WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU GRANTS EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE
COMMENTS ON QWEST'S PETITIONS FOR FORBEARANCE IN THE
DENVER, MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL, PHOENIX, AND SEATTLE
METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS**

WC Docket No. 07-97

Comments Due: August 31, 2007

Reply Comments Due: October 1, 2007

On June 28, 2007, the Arizona Corporation Commission (Arizona Commission) filed a Request for Extension of Time.¹ The Arizona Commission asks for an additional 45 days to file its comments, and a corresponding extension of time to file reply comments on Qwest Corporation's (Qwest) petitions for forbearance in the Denver, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Phoenix, and Seattle Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs).² The current deadline for filing comments is July 17, 2007, and the deadline for filing reply comments is August 16, 2007.³

The Arizona Commission states that it sent out data requests to all facilities-based telecommunications providers in Arizona and that certain of the providers are seeking extensions of time

¹ See Request for Extension of Time of the Arizona Corporation Commission to File Comments and Reply Comments on Qwest's Petition for Forbearance, WC Docket No. 07-97 (filed June 28, 2007) (Arizona Commission Request).

² Petition of Qwest Corporation for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) in the Denver, Colorado Metropolitan Statistical Area, WC Docket No. 07-97; Petition of Qwest Corporation for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) in the Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota Metropolitan Statistical Area, WC Docket No. 07-97; Petition of Qwest Corporation for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) in the Phoenix, Arizona Metropolitan Statistical Area, WC Docket No. 07-97; Petition of Qwest Corporation for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) in the Seattle, Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area, WC Docket No. 07-97 (filed Apr. 27, 2007). On May 3, 2007, Qwest filed an errata to its petitions to make certain corrections in its filings. See Letter from Melissa E. Newman, Vice President – Federal Regulatory, Qwest, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WC Docket No. 07-97 (filed May 3, 2006).

³ On June 1, 2007, the Bureau issued a public notice indicating that the comments would be due on July 17, 2007 and the reply comments would be due on August 16, 2007. See *Pleading Cycle Established for Comments on Qwest's Petitions for Forbearance in the Denver, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Phoenix, and Seattle Metropolitan Statistical Areas*, WC Docket No. 07-97, Public Notice, DA 07-2291 (WCB rel. June 1, 2007).

to respond, and some are seeking to enter into additional protective agreements with the Arizona Commission.⁴ The Arizona Commission indicates that obtaining this information and agreeing upon the terms of the protective agreement will involve considerable amount of time.⁵ The Arizona Commission adds that it must then analyze the data and prepare comments through its own internal processes and believes it "will be difficult if not impossible for it to obtain the data it needs and prepare meaningful comments in the time period presently allotted by the FCC."⁶

Although requests for extensions of time are not routinely granted,⁷ we do occasionally grant limited extensions of time when we find that the public interest would be served by doing so. In this case, we believe that granting the Arizona Commission's request is in the public interest. The additional time will benefit the Arizona Commission and will give all other interested parties additional time to file comments. We also believe that extending the deadlines will also provide the Commission with a more complete and well-developed record in this proceeding. Parties therefore have until **August 31, 2007** to file comments on the Qwest Petitions in this docket, and until **October 1, 2007** to file reply comments.

For further information regarding this proceeding, contact Denise Coca, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-0574 or Jeremy Miller, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-1507.

⁴ Arizona Commission Request at 2. Three parties filed comments in support of the Arizona Commission Request. See Comments of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission in Support of the Request for Extension of Time by the Arizona Corporation Commission, WC Docket No. 07-97 (filed July 3, 2007); Letter from Brett Heather Freedson, Counsel to Covad Communications Group *et al.*, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 07-97 (filed July 5, 2007); Letter from Thomas Jones, Attorneys for Time Warner Telecom Inc. *et al.*, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 07-97 (filed July 5, 2007).

⁵ Arizona Commission Request at 2.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ See 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(a).